El Caballero

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL VOLUME 45 NUMBER 8 MARCH 13, 1987

Five Students Make National Merit Finals

This month Five El Cerrito students were named National Merit Scholarship finalists.

They will go on to have their applications further critiqued and will be notified on May 15th whether they will recieve scolarships or not.

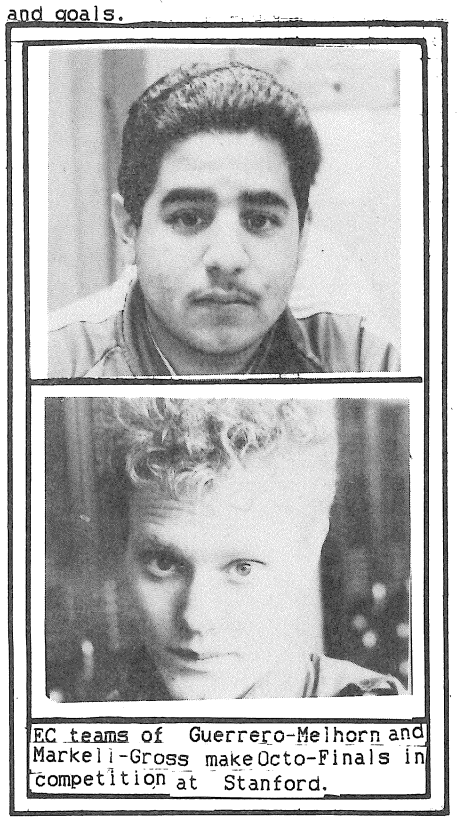
The five finalists were Tony Craddock, David Donovan, Erick Finkelstein, Patchen Markell, and Ross Okamura.

They achieved Semi-finalist standing by scoring a ninety-six percentile or higher on their PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test). And then moved on to Finalist standing by by maintaining high academic performance, being endorsed and recommended by the high school, taking the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) to confirm their qualifying test performance, and submitting information about their school and community activities, personal interests and goals.

Out of 50,000 participating students, 15,000 advanced to semi-finals and approximately 9,000 to finals and ----- will recieve scholarships.

Tony Craddock when asked how he would feel if he got the scholarship said," It would be great. It would be the biggest thing in my life." He said that he is looking for the recognition, that he doesn't expect to recieve much money.

FINALISTS: Ross Okamura, David Donavan, Erik Finkelstein, Tony Craddock and Patchen Markell.



EC teams of Guerrero-Melhorn and Markell-Gross make Octo-Finals in competition at Stanford.

Mao appears on campus

by Jonathan Bradley

On February 11, a man who is believed to have painted grafitti and put up Mao posters on the walls of the El Cerrito campus was spotted by a member of the community leaving the school grounds.

The suspect was a black male about 5'6", wearing silver rimmed glasses, army fatigue type pants, army boots and a beret. His estimated age is about twenty six years old.

The grafitti, stating, "It's your right to react against reactionaries.-Mao-Tse Tung "66"," was spray painted on an outside wall behind the main building of the school. On February 7, posters of Mao Tse Tung, founder of the Chinese Communist party, were pasted on walls around campus. The posters, which read "Forward along the path charted by Mao Tse Tung," were written in English French and Spanish and included a picture of Mao in the background. Another poster that was put up said, "Murderers in deep ---- push them under." It showed people and waste spilling out of the White House.

It is likely that the suspect belonged to a group because the Mao posters had the name, "Communist USA, "printed on them. It is believed by Mr. Boles, Dean of Boys, that the person was politically motivated and that it was not done by students as a prank. Those who saw the graffiti and the posters thought that they were done by experts because it looked like a lot of time and effort was spent doing them.

There is a possibility that a group claiming to represent Communist USA had done it. School security officer Johnson noted that the posters that were placed on the school can also be found in parts of Richmond.

The day before the Mao posters appeared a woman claiming to represent the Commmunist Party, was on campus before school, trying to sell newspapers to students. According to one student, "This woman tried to get me to buy a communist newspaper and get my name and phone number."The woman was illegally on campus and was instructed to leave by social science teacher Bonnie Taylor.

The school is in the process of removing the graffiti and posters. If anyone has seen the suspect or any suspicious persons around the campus, they are asked to report them to the school police or the El Cerrito Police Dept.

Art shows

For the last 20 years, El Cerrito High's Art class taught by Mr. Erik Fink, has choreographed an art show to exhibit the work done by students during the past year.

A number of students who have had a couple of years or more of art experience will be arranging private displays of their work for public viewing.

Orignally, the program was intended for the parents of the budding student artists. Therefore, it was held during open house. However, due to increased public interest, the program is now open to anyone who wishes to see the works during Open House, Thursday, March 19, beginning at 7PM.

The following Friday, March 20, classes will be invited to see the achievements of the artists. Fink will send 30 to 40 of the best works to the Richmond Art Center in downtown Richmond to compete for prizes. This event is scheduled for Thursday, April 9. Admission is free and open to the public.

According to Fink, E.C. students have already proven their ability to submit winning material. So anyone who is interested is urged to attend and join the fun.

SADD Behavior at Rally

Name withheld by request

On February 23rd, during 2nd period, the ECHS SADD chapter sponsored a "Friday Nite Live" program. The behavior of some of the students at this event was absolutely disgusting!

During the presentation a film was shown.Laughter was heard and comments were made. That could be tolerated. It was not polite, but it was tolerable. After the film, a police officer discussed the problems of drunken driving in our own city streets of El Cerrito. Many students began to snicker and make stupid, thoughtless comments that were completely out of place. But that wasn't the worst of it.

The next speaker, a 19-year-old, recovering alcoholic, gave his testimony. He was dead serious. The rude audience didn't seem to think so. Again they snickered and shouted out rude remarks.

The most embarrassing moment was when a woman began her tragic, true story, sincereley choked by her words and the students laughed! Drunk driving is a real problem and if you think it's funny you just might be one of its next victims. Who'll be laughing then?

Yet that is not the issue. This is proof that many young people today are thoughtless and senseless, uncaring people who find it funny to laugh at other's misfortunes. No one today respects other's opinions, or listens to anything that anyone might say if it doesn't agree whith their perspectives. It is an embarrassment to belong to the adolescent age group when they behave this way!No wonder adults have so many negative things to say about teens. All they have to do is witness a few teens acting as they did at the program and they assume all of us are like that! To those people who set the bad examples, I wish you luck in the future because it will be difficult to get someone to respect you when you can't respect them.

To those students at the program that did not act rudely, I apologize, but perhaps by reading this, some of the students lacking manners can realize how foolish they're being.

Puzzling Politics at E.C.

by Raoul Duke

El Cerrito High School has once again fallen victim to vandalism. This time, however, not by students, but instead by a political organization.

Posters in support of Mao Tse Tung have been randomly plastered on various walls and buildings on and off school campus. It doesn't stop there. They have gone as far as scrawling graffiti on the side of the main building telling us that "It's right to rebel against reactionaries."

What they're saying may very well be true, but I find it difficult to agree with someone or something primarily because it's painted on a wall. These people are forgetting that this is a high school and the majority of the student body probably doesn't even know who Mao is, let alone what their message means. If their goal was to make our student body more politically aware, then perhaps they should have come and spoken to the students instead of putting up posters and graffiti that most students don't understand. If, instead, their goal was merely to vandalize or propagandize, then they have only succeeded in undermining what little respect they had as a political organization. Because of the way our society is run, we tend to reject anything associated with communism as evil. The fact that the Mao supporters did what they did only hurts their cause.

More is needed than just slapping up posters and spray painting catchy slogans on wall to make a political impact. Ideas must be presented in person or at least with some type of explanation. A large part of our student body does not understand communism or socialism, not to mention Chairman Mao. If these supporters would only take one more step and explain their ideas then and only then would it be a step forward in raising political awareness.

Grow up, Dammit!

by Jef Bekes

Recently, the pit area of El Cerrito High School has become a haven for those who wish to indulge in food fights. This phenomena is nothing new to our school, but lately it has been quite excessive. Innocent bystanders have been hit and injured by food, and this habit has made the pit a most unpleasant place to try to enjoy lunch.

Food fights used to be all in good fun-- the occasional throwing of a grape or an orange peel never seemed to bother anyone. This bit of fun has escalated into something more serious. Evidently, some of the students can't find anything else to entertain themselves with and have resorted to creating imaginative ways of destroying their food. The grapes and orange peels have evolved into whole apples and oranges. When something of this size hits someone, it hurts.

If these people are so bored that they can't find anything else to do at lunch, maybe they don't belong in high school. If they don't want their fruits and other assortments, as the case may be, why don't they give it to someone else or just throw it away? And, if you're going to throw it, at least throw it far enough where it can reach a third world country. I'm sure they would appreciate it more fore lunch than someone would on their head.

The students of El Cerrito should not be forced to walk through a crossfire of flying food. One student was hit in the head with an apple but instead of anyone asking if she was alright, which she wasn't, she was laughed at. Very funny. Ha. Like the time that guy got hit with a brick. Great time for everyone I'm sure.

The "pit crew" has showed an extreme lack of courtesy, and for the better part, intelligence. I think it's time they grew up or at least took their food fights elsewhere.

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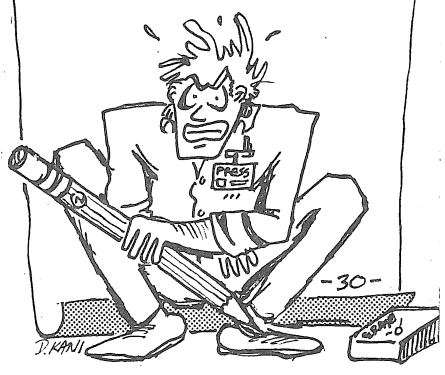

El Caballero is an official student publication of El Cerrito High School, 540 Ashbury, El Cerrito, California 94530. The opinions expressed in these editorials are not necessarily those of the El Caballero or the ECHS administration. All letters to the editor must be written and signed; the writer's name will be withheld by request. For advertising rates, write to El Cerrito High School, c/o Journalism Department.

by Darren Kani

We all can look at other countries and easily identify the difference in cultures through the way people dress, talk, act. But we often fail to recognize the fantastic diversity of culture in our own country or even in our own state. We live in one of the largest states in the U.S. With all that space there is obviously plenty of room for some differences to appear in the way people live in the different cities and towns around the state.

I recently attended a Youth and Government conference in Sacramento. The delegates who attended were from throughout the state: Visalia, Fairfield, Barstow, and Santa Ynez to name only a few. It was here that I started to notice a few differnces between a few California cultures, especially between those of Northern and Southern California.

As soon as we got to the hotel, my friend, trying to get aquainted with some girls, walked up to a girl from San Luis Obispo eating a sandwich and causually said, "Is it helluv grubbin' ?"

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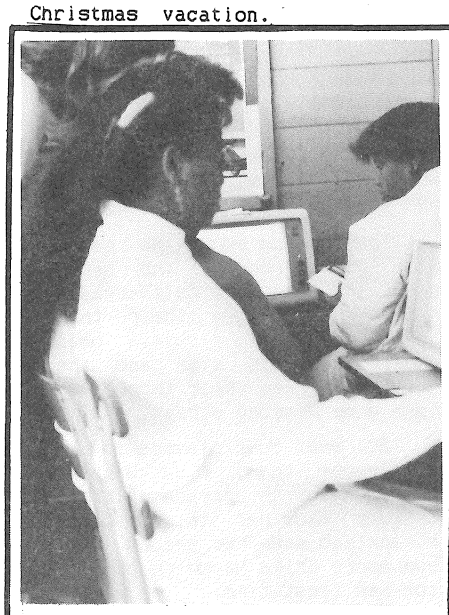
English is more fun on computers

by Leslie Soo

Mrs. Cone, a teacher who is open to new ways of working with students, created her own English classroom computer lab for her first period class after Christmas vacation.



Students compose on computers.

Mrs. Cone works with two other people on this project-- Cindy Greenleaf, who is a PhD candidate from UC Berkeley and Ms. Terry Roberts who is a student Teacher at UC Berkeley. CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN

The purpose of this program is to give students a chance to be exposed to composing on computers. Mrs. Cone feels that "computers are a invaluable writing tool ". Her students are writing on PC jrs. and using the " word perfect " word processing program. Greenleaf is interested in how computers affect students' writing processes. For her PhD dissertation she is studying how students write on computers with an idea of creating software to assist students to write effectively.

The beginning of the partnership came about two years ago when Cone took Greenleaf's class " Composing and Computers ". They came to know each other when Greenleaf read Mrs. Cone's Master's thesis on Collaborating with Students. They began working together last September in Mrs. Cone's first period class. At the start they only had two Apple computers. But now they have 15 Pc jrs. - each with it's own color monitor and printer.

CONTINUED BACK PAGE

EC Goes Algerian in UN

by Tina Goldberg

In April, 1985, delegates from nearly fifty nations gathered in San Francisco to hammer out a charter for world unity. In March, 1987, the first ever group of ten El Cerrito High School delegates will join students from nearly fifty states in Oakland to learn diplomacy in a model United Nations.

The model United Nations is patterned after the real U.N. El Cerrito High will represent Algeria, an Arab, North African country at the conference held March 12th-15th at the Oakland Hyatt Regency and Cal, Berkeley. In addition, students become experts in one of six sections.

President Kathy Gutman is enthusiastic about the club. "I like foreign affairs. I'm always into new clubs. I basically suggest to others what books to buy, and gather articles on Algeria." Club sponsor Ms. Donovan equally looks forward to the conference. "I was told there would be peaple from across the country."

Craig Ishida, who has learned about the Middle East with Craig Tanagucci remarked, "I thought it would be interesting, and help me understand what goes on in the United Nations."

Model UN students take picture before conference.

This year's sections are South Africa, cross-boundary pollution, South East Asia, non-intervention in internal affairs, and the Middle East. Each issue is discussed in a large group, debated, and culminated in a General Assembly where countries vote on resolutions.

During the past several months, world history teacher Ms. Donovan, club President sophomore Kathy Gutman, vice-president sophomore Ruth Mathis, and eight other students have worked hard to learn about Algeria and their sections. Other participating students, all freshmen, are Thomas Tandoc, Ian Kirk, Joel Nagafuji, Myron Lo, Craig Ishida, and Craig Tanagucchi

Since this is the first year El Cerrito High has sponsored a model U.N., club members anticipate the conference to be primarily a learning experience, as Kathy remarked, "It's our first time. It will set the stage for next year."

Guest Writer: Lisa Nakamura

We are ahead 54-52 with less than ten seconds remaining. Five Berkeley players are chasing after the ball, trying to steal it. The ball is passed to Karryl Tweet. Foul on number twenty-three. Number twenty-five is on the line shooting two. Cynthia and Linda are in the lane ready for a rebound. Lauren and I are standing at halfcourt waiting on defense.Karryl is ready to shoot her first of two freethrows. Bounce. Bounce. Swish. Screams and hand clapping echo throughout the gym. Now for her second. Bounce. Bounce. Clunk. She misses.

Tears were rolling down every Gaucho's face

La Cole comes down with the rebound and outlets the ball to Denise at the top of the key. Lauren and I jump out at her causing her to panic. She loses the ball. Time is running out. The ball is still loose. Three, two, one, beep. Nobody picked up the ball. The game is over with the final score 55-52.

As the buzzer sounded, screams, hugs, happiness, and crying filled the court. Cynthia and Karyl embraced joyously--as they had finally won an R.B.A.L. Championship as seniors. Coach gave each of them a long hug. Cynthia picked me up and spun me around like a toy. Tears were rolling down every Gaucho teammate's face . Tears of happiness; our first. Tears to always remember. Tears that can never be replaced.

After the celebration among teammates, we gave the Berkeley Yellowjackets a good game cheer and shook their hands while Cynthia hugged her best friend DeRhonda as she cried, dejected by the loss. Then we gathered our things and proceeded to the lockerroom.

In the lockerroom, we sat while coach spoke to us about what was ahead for us. Some of our mothers piled into congratulate us. They were so happy and proud. This win was the first time in seven years that an El Cerrito team had gotten into the N.C.S. playoffs. We were all proud of our efforts and were ready for our next opponents.

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EC Hoopsters Eliminated at North Coast Tourney

Men Suffer First Round Loss

by Amy Page

After an impressive winning streak late in the season, the El Cerrito's men Hoopsters had their hearts set on the GBAL title. A 57-49 first-round playoff loss to Kennedy ended the Gauchos' dreams for the league crown.

Hopes were lifted when the basketball team earned an at-large berth into the North Coast Section 3A Playoff Tournament. Despite a fiesty effort against the tough Ygnacio Valley Warriors, the Gaucho season ended with a 58-50 defeat.

El Cerrito finished the year with a 14-13 overall record, and 6-5 in GBAL action.

For their efforts and contributions all season long, senior Ray Ford and sophomore Quentin Youngblood were selected for the GBAL all-league team. Juniors Anthony Colbert and Brandon Lee were recognized with honorable mentions. Ford was also honored as the West County Times Athlete of the Week.

Before entering post-season play, the Gauchos had won six of their last seven games, and 11 of the last 15. The late-season surge landed EC an honorable mention in the East Bay Prep Writers poll.

In the NCS game, the Gauchos harrassed the Warriors, never allowing them to get too far ahead. At half-time, YV led 24-18.

With 5:02 left to play, the Warriors enjoyed a ten point lead, but after a determined Gaucno flurry on an outside shot and two freethrows, YV was only up by six. That, however, was enough to win the game.

Ford and Youngblood paced the Gauchos with 18 and 17 points respectively. Warrior center Eric Bamberger scored 26 for the game high.

In a close match-up against league rival Kennedy Eagles in the GBAL playoffs, Lee scored the game-high with 19 points while Youngblood added 12 and Ford contributed six. Juniors Anthony Colbert and Myron Mason, and sophomore Charles Brown rounded out the Gauchos scoring with four apiece.

Down 51-41 with 3:18 to play, the Gauchos made a late run to close the gap to 52-49 with 54 seconds left on the clock. Kennedy wrapped up the 57-49 victory with a steal and a layup.

In the other league match-up, Berkeley surprised De La Salle with a 49-47 upset. The two teams faced each other again in the title game and De La Salle reigned as champion.

In the last regular season game, El Cerrito defeated Alameda 63-60.

Grapplers Hit Tough Competition at North Coast

by Craig Wong

The El Cerrito wrestling team ended their season at the GBAL tournament, but a few individuals qualified to the North Coast Section tournament. Sophomores Clark Furuta and Aaron Greene, junior Chuckie Anderson, and senior Shawn Garrett all placed in the top three at the GBAL tournament to qualify.

At the 122lb class, Greene was decisioned 17-2 in the first round, and eliminated 4-0 in the second. Furuta was pinned and eliminated in the first round. Anderson and Garrett, however, fared better.

Anderson, at 141lbs, made an impressive showing by pinning his the quarterfinals. But he ran into the eventual NCS champion, and was decisioned 18-2. In the consolation round, he was pinned, and ended up in eighth place.

Garrett pinned his first opponent, but was decisioned by the second, 8-1. In consolation action, he split his two matches, winning the first one with a pin, and being decisioned 9-1 in the next.

Congratulations to the wrestling team, who wrestled well all year, despite setbacks due to illness, injury, and ineligibility, Coach Randy Takahashi, and especially the individuals who advanced to North Coast.

Congratulations Gauchos!

Ladies Robbed of NorCal Berth

by Kari Chew

The El Cerrito girl's basketball team ended their season on a sour note, losing to James Logan High in the semifinal round of the North Coast Section Playoffs and then losing a NorCal Section at-large-berth again to James Logan.

The Gauchos ended the season with a 29-2 record, the second best in Northern California. Also, they won their third consecutive league title being undefeated each time and they still preserved their three year home game winning streak.

EC sent four players to the all-league team. Lisa Nakamura made her fourth appearance, Linda Schlutz made her third, Lauren strickland made her second while sophomore Erika Hardwick appeared for her first time.

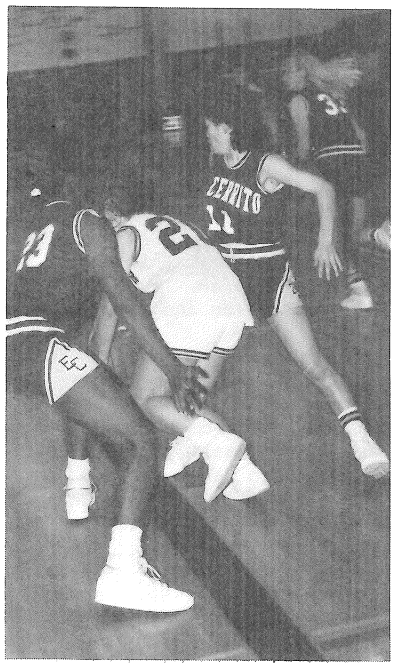
The Gauchos beat Logan twice before but couldn't do it this time as Logan amazed EC with a stunning 47-32 upset. The Colts led 24-10 at intermission and EC was unable to come closer than ten after that.

Logan's huge front line which averages 6 feet 1 inch, forced El Cerrito to shoot from the outside where they were ice cold. They had their worst shooting game ever as they were 3 for 26 in the first half and 11 for 67 (16 percent) overall. Things got even worse for the Gauchos when Lauren Stricland picked up her fifth foul with 7:10 remaining in the game. EC trailed by only ten then. "There went our speed right there, we couldn't come back without her," commented EC coach Bill Hardin.

Logan's towering front line combined for 27 points, 27 rebounds while EC's high scorers, Erika Hardwick and Linda Schultz contributed for only 23.

In the second round of North Coast play, the Gauchos coasted past the Moreau Mariners 56-37 at Saint Mary's College. Deadlocked at 12-12 after the first period, EC outscored the Mariners every Quarter after that led by the efforts of Hardwick. Eight points by Hardwick in the opening of the third quarter left Moreau trailing by 14 and EC never looked back.

Hardwick ended with 20 points, 11 rebounds, three blocked shots and two steals. EC also had two other playres in double figures: Linda Schultz added ten points for the Gauchos while Lauren Strickland chipped in 15 points, seven steals and seven rebounds. Reserve Vicki Kalu contributed eight points and Lisa Nakamura dished eleven assists.



Gaucho all-leaguers Erika Hardwick and Lisa Nakamura put pressure on tough opponenets.

In the first round of North Coast, El Cerrito knocked off Clayton Valley 58-46. After leading a hard fought 29-22 lead at the half, the Gauchos qiuckly pulled ahead to a 41-28 third quarter lead. But Clayton Valley refused to give up. An Eagle layup with 2:50 left in the game brought CV to within ten. Hardwick answered back by successfully completing a three point play with less than two minutes that secured the win for the Gauchos.

EC insured a North Coast Section berth by capturing the GBAL crown for the third year in a row. EC beat Kennedy 55-38. Sophomore Vicki Kalu came off the bench to score seven points in the second quarter to leave Kennedy trailing 25-17 at intermission. EC's tough defense held Kennedy to only 11 second-half points while the Gauchos rallied for 30. Erika Hardwick led the Gauchos with 16 points, Linda Schultz chipped in eight points, 10 rebounds and Lisa Nakamura passed for eight assists.

On the same night, Berkeley beat Carondelet to move into the GBAL championship game against the Gauchos.

Sluggers Knock in Wins, Look to GBAL Action

by Amy Page

The Golden Bay Athletic League will be one of the toughest and entertaining leagues in Northern California this baseball season. Alameda, De La Salle, Kennedy and Pinole claim some of the strongest baseball teams in the Bay Area. Berkeley, always a dark horse, can pull off some surprises.

And with three impressive wins under their belts, the El Cerrito Gauchos will be right there on top, battling for the title.

Second year Gaucho coach Dennis Abel feels his team can play with anyone in a well matched game. "We have experience, good pitching, good defense and a good attitude. We're a good team," Abel explains.

"To be successful, we have to swing the bats better, hit the ball better. If the bats come alive, we can challenge at the top of the league," Abel says, explaining that his only worry is producing offense.

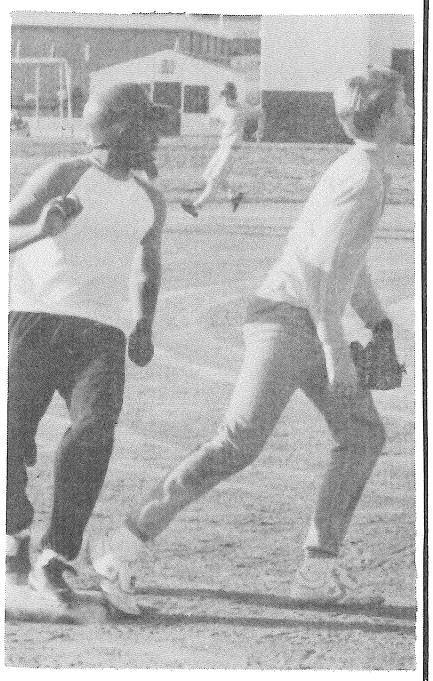
However, in the first three non-league games, EC bats looked very much alive as the Gauchos defeated Hogan 1-0, Marin Catholic 11-3, and McLane of Fresno 5-0. Solid defense and strong pitching performances by senior ace Brad Brown and junior pitcher Lumus Russell highlighted the wins.

The Gauchos played Fairfield on Tuesday and hosts St. Mary's at Cerrito Vista Park today at 3:30.

GBAL action begins Tuesday, March 24, against Pinole Valley and continues until May 19. Every game will be tough, and every game will count in order to advance to the NCS playoffs. "We'll be an entertaining team. We play good baseball," Abel promises.

Abel is assisted by Scott Warren and Tony Santorelli. The Junior Varsity team is coached by Steve Warren and Raul Yberra.

Last year the Gauchos compiled a 12-11 overall record, 6-6 in league play. Most of the team returns this season as only three seniors were lost to graduation.



JV baseball players practice.

The roster for the 1987 Gaucho varsity baseball team is as follows: seniors - pitcher Brad Brown, outfielder Andre Gibson, first baseman Jeff Gooding, pitcher Rene Johnson, outfielder Sidney Johnson, catcher Tyrone McClain, outfielder David Miller, and infielder Eric Robinson.

Juniors on the team are outfielder Kevin Harris, catcher Steve Hunt, outfielder Gary Jones, outfielder Sean Prior, pitcher Lumus Russell, infielder Danny Smith, and infielder Cory Wafer.

Sophomores pitcher/infielder Nate Brown and infielder Sam Bernstein complete the roster. Senior infielder Roger Tsurumoto will be eligible for play in April.

Swimmers Dive in

by Jeffrey Pryde

The ECHS boys' swim team began their season with an impressive victory over Liberty 80-69. The girls' team was less successful, losing to the Liberty Lions 99-62.

Senior Seymour Liao , junior Ken Hong and sophomore Joel Salmeron ignited the boys' team.

Liao ' won the 50-yard freestyle in 26.2 seconds and the 100 free with 58.00. Hong won the 500 free with 5:24.59 and the 100 fly with 59.63. Salmeron won the 200 free with 2:03.48 and the 200 Individual Medley with 2:23.51.

Other ECHS performances included junior Mike Ariyoshi placing second in the 50 free with 28.42 and in the 100 free with 1:03.54. Junior Jeff Pryde placed second in the 100 breast with 1:21.14. Sophomore Chris Harmon placed second in the 500 free with 7:07.00 and third in the 200 free with 2:25.00 .

Senior Carina Pastor and sophomore Chrissy Schultz paced the Gauchos in their losing effort. Pastor won the 100 breast with 1:19.85 and placed a close second in the 100 free with 1:05.9. Schultz won the 200 I.M. with 2:19.87 and the 500 free with 5.30:11.

Other ECHS girls' performances included senior Michelle Shiromoto placing second in the 200 free with 2:43.11, and third in the 500 free with 7:40.43. Sophomore Stephanie Lau placed second in the 50 free with 31.59. Sophomore Kristen Nelson placed third in the 100 breast with 1:29.00 and third in the 200 I.M. with 2:55.00.

The EC swim team travels to Alameda today to swim against the Hornets of Alameda at 3:30.

Tracksters Off and Running

by Jessabella Bass

The El Cerrito tracksters kicked off the season with a non-scoring tri-meet against Moreau highschool and Bellermine highschool of San Jose. The Gaucho girls dominated the running events while the men faced much tougher competition.

The girls team, led by a very strong distance crew, won every running event except the 110 low hurdles. Marisa Gardella started off the Gaucho domination with her first place finish in the two mile run. Lori Okamura placed 3rd in that event. Veli Lehman won the 800 meter run and Debbie Binnall won the 400 meter dash. The Gaucho's swept the field in the women's mile run. Binnall, Lehman, and Gardella finished 1, 2, 3 respectively.

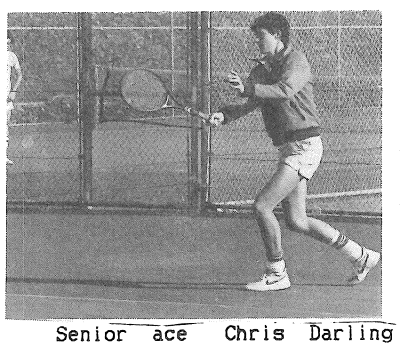
The young sprint squad led by Sonja Combs, Stephanie Moran, Lisa Rhine, Roma Groves, and Tasia Patterson won both relay events and the 100 and 200 meter dashes. While El Cerrito demolished Moreau in the running events, the Gauchos had no girls compete in the field events.

The men's team had much stiffer competition than the girls, mainly from Central Coast Section powerhouse Bellermine. The distance runners were led by Alex Da Silva's 2nd place finish in the 800. Da Silva ran a very fast early season time in that event. Morgan McClarty placed 4th in the mile and Steve Turnipseed finished 4th in the two mile.

Andre Love and Eddie Holland led the relatively inexperienced sprint squad. The men also had few competitors in the field events.

Last year the girls team captured their 3rd straight RBAL title and second straight NCS title. The girls hope to again demolish all competition. The 1986 boys team placed second at the RBAL championships and third at NCS. The Gauchos have high expectations for the upcoming season.

The Gaucho's compete at Chabot college tommorrow in their first invitational of the season. On Saturday, March 21st they will compete at U.C. Berkeley and the Gauchos first home meet is on Thursday, April 2nd against Carondolet and De La Salle.



Senior ace Chris Darling returns as the mens' tennis team's number one seed.

Men's Tennis Begins Promising Season

by Craig Wong

Spring has arrived, and the Men's tennis team has once again donned their Adidas, Ellisse, and Fila tennis gear. The team will be led by returning coaches Tom Chin and Sue Rosenthal, and a host of returning varsity players.

Heading the list of those players is senior Chris Darling, the number one singles player for El Cerrito for the last two years. Darling will be backed up with an unusual amount of depth, including seniors Ed Aw, Don Danmeier, and Anthony Gardner. Rounding out the varsity squad will be returning juniors Matthew Cone, Myron Mason, Tan Vo, and Craig Wong, and freshman Chad Bosch and transfer Devin Fernandez.

Last year, the Gaucho netters placed second to Berkeley in RBAL action, demolishing all other opponents. This year, however, with the addition of Alameda and De La Salle, things should change. Both new teams should present tough challenges to Berkeley, and give El Cerrito new competition.

Losing only one senior to graduation last year, the Gauchos are loaded with depth and talent, and should have a shot at the GBAL title.

El Cerrito hosts Oakland High in a non-league pre-season match today at 3:30.

Health Clinic Bill Vetoed

by Elissa Sagle

On September 30, 1986 Governor George Dukemeijian vetoed a bill that would authorize the state of California to give financial assistance for at least three high school based health clinic pilot projects. The clinics are designed to provide a range of primary health services to adolescents in grades 7 thru 12.

Dukemeijian's only reason for not signing the bill was because he felt that the amount of money neded to fund the pilot projects exceeded the budget of $700 million for whe fiscal year 87-88 and would undermine his plans to counter state deficits. The bill approved last June by both houses of the state legislature called for $310,000 over a two year period.

In his veto message, Dukemeijian said,"In order to protect California's fiscal integrity and to maintain our prudent reserve for emergencies, I was obligated to eliminate $700 million in excess from the budget."

In the bill as proposed to the governor, health clinics would offer the following serrvices: physical exams, treatment of sports injuries, testing for hearing and vision, disease screening, suicide prevention programs, immunizations, first aid and hygiene, drug and alcohol abuse programs, nutrition and weight reduction programs, family planning and counseling services, abstinance programs, and prenatal and postnatal care.

The clinic is accessible, familiar, and offers services free or at a minimal annual cost. Services are totally confidential and are adolescent-oriented. Also, provisions of the bill ensure that the clinic obtain written authorization from the parent or guardian for a minor's participation in the clinic.

In addition, a local advisory board will meet before the clinic goes into operation and whenever a peoblem should arise. This advisory board will include parents and other members of the community to ensure that the clinic adheres to the voice of the community.

When asked whether or not they would want a health clinic at El Cerrito High School, most students responded positively. However the question of funds and the problem of keeping confidentiality arose. Most health science teachers from El Cerrito as well as from other schools thought that school based health clinics has many possibilities for being a great asset to high schools. Yet they did not wish to comment further due to the delicateness of the subject in their area.

According to Marty Keller, public relations officer for Contra Costa County's Planned Parenthood, it has been shown in other clinics of the country that teens take advantage of the health care services when they would not normally merely because of accessability.

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Computers CONTINUED

The added equipment came from Ron Choy, the Assistant Dean of School of Education. The project is doing incredibly well and Mrs. Cone hopes she'll be able to renegotiate the agreement for next year so that she can continue to have students compose on word processors. Everyone involved in the project feels the same way when Mrs. Cone says, " Never in my wildest dreams did I think I'd have this opportunity to get kids composing on computers."

CONTINUED

North vs South

I admit this really wasn't the intelligent thing to say but he used two terms that are often used in the Bay Area (helluv and grubbin'). The girl gave him a puzzled look and exclaimed, "Pardon me ?" A guy standing behind her also looked befuddled and said, "Helluv grubbin'? "

Aroused by the fact that nobody from out of the Bay Area seemed to have any knowledge of the words "helluv" and "grubbin' " my friend and I decided to investigate this further. Again trying to "get aquainted" we talked to some girls from Santa Ynez, Cresenta/canada, and South Pasadena and none of them knew about either of these terms. They also didn't know about the terms "hard-up" and "fresh". Instead, they used terms like "full-on".

Going to the dances when everybody was dressed casually, I noticed that most of the Southern Califorinians had a very stylized type of wear. Tons of rugby shirts and surf wear. They were also really into dancing, keeping up with all the latest steps and moves.

The really trendy valley-type girls all had one distinctive trait; they all seemed to have a superior attitude about Southern California. "Beverly Hills, beaches, Disneyland and Hollywood" was one girl's reasoning. "People don't go to Northern California for anything unless they want to see the vineyards or something." Fortunately, a lot of other Southern Californians weren't so high up on themselves and most were very nice people. I learned that social status is very important when you live down south. You have to have this kind of car, these kinds of clothes, hang out with those kinds of people, or you won't be popular. When you look at the Bay Area teenagers in general they seem to have a more relaxed attitude about their social status.

Although I found out how different people can be even in the same state, I also found that we are generally the same as well. No matter how different we may be in the way we dress or talk, a teenager is a teenager. We all have one common link: being young. Sometimes we forget.

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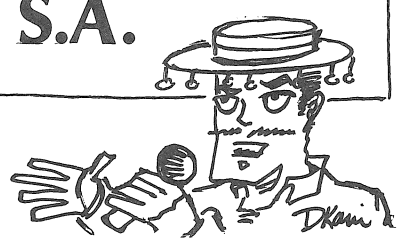

In response to Mrs. O'brian's urgings, El Cerrito's Leadership class has started to plan activities to increase school spirit this semester.

The biggest activity of the upcoming semester will be the spring festival. This will be an intense spirit week that will culminate in the spring dance, tentatively scheduled for the week of March 16-20, pending approval.

During Spring Fest there will also be an international foods day, during which all four classes and various clubs will compete for the market and sell food from various places around the world. There may even be an inter-class water balloon fight. At the end of the week, the juniors will sponsor another Luau/ potluck that will be open to all students. Bands who want to audition to play for the Luau should talk to Shannon Clutts.

To clean up the school, the juniors and sophomores will have class clean-ups in the next couple of months. Mr. Fink and his art class might even be persuaded to grace us with another beautiful mural.

Un the district-wide level, SA officers have also been active. The five schools in the district- El Cerrito, Kennedy, Pinole, De Anza, and Richmond- are planning an inter-school dance to be held on March 13. The dance will be a gala evbent, with several hundred students and a professional DJ. The dance will be held at De Anza, but tickets are only available by invitation.

Further SA business includes the legislature meeting that was held on February 24, period 3. Business at hand was the ratification of then new constitution and the establishment of a supreme court. The general feeling in the legislature was that the constitution wasn't really a constitution if it didn't guarantee any rights, so a Bill Of Rights is being drafted for approval by the next legislature meeting on March 18th.